

#### **IV. REMARKS**

This is a Preliminary Amendment filed in an RCE of the above-identified application. A Notice of Allowance was issued on April 21, 2004

By the present amendment, applicants have: (1) amended claims 1, 2, 13, 15 to cure minor typographical and clerical errors that were present in the application as originally filed; (2) submitted additional prior art for consideration by the Examiner by way of an Information Disclosure Statement. As identified in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement, this art includes art cited against applicants' counterpart PCT application, International Application No. PCT/US2003/030106.

It is believed that none of this prior art affects the patentability of the pending claims 1-24. As for the amendments presented in this Preliminary Amendment, selected claims have been amended for purposes of clarity, rather than based on overcoming any prior art. The art cited herewith is not believed to disclose or suggest any of the structure recited in the pending claims nor affect the structure recited by the Examiner in his Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

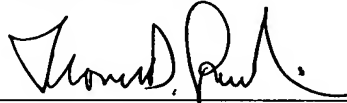
Applicants respectfully request a re-issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

MOLEX INCORPORATED

Date: July 21, 2004

By: \_\_\_\_\_



Thomas D. Paulius  
Registration No. 30,792

MOLEX INCORPORATED  
2222 Wellington Court  
Lisle, Illinois 60532  
(630) 527-4897